

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-4 are pending in the application, with claim 1 being independent. Based on the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Rejections Under Double Patenting

The Official Action indicated that claims 1-4 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-5, 17 and 20 of U.S. Patent No. 6,670,848. The Examiner stated that "[a]lthough the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because: the prior applications claim an apparatus including a first amplification module, a number of second amplification modules, a power detector, a gain control device ... wherein the instant application is now also claiming an apparatus which includes all of the elements of the prior claims: (for example see claims 1-4 of the prior applications: a number of amplification modules (a number of second amplification), a power detector, a gain control device, a pre-amplification module (a first amplification module)).

Applicants submit herewith a terminal disclaimer over U.S. Patent 6,670,848. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 1-4 under the judicially-created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting has been fully accommodated and should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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